Cordant Technologies **News release**

Press Contact:
Lauren Sides
Public Relations
Cordant Technologies
(801) 933-4193
sidesls@cordanttech.com

Note: For additional information on Cordant Technologies, see http://www.cordanttech.com/

To review Cordant Technologies stock performance: Daily Stock Performance

Thiokol Propulsion Re-Using Rocket Fuel Elements to Fly Again

Brigham City, Utah, June 7, 1999

A new washout facility at Thiokol Propulsion, a division of Cordant Technologies Inc., is capable of removing propellant from large-diameter rocket motors, such as the Shuttle Reusable Solid Rocket Motor (RSRM) segments and reclaiming elements of the fuel for reuse.

During the first six months of operation at Thiokol's Utah plant, the new washout facility has averaged a removal rate of 1,125 kilograms (2,500 pounds) of propellant per hour. The facility was constructed using Thiokol and NASA funding.

During a washout, high-pressure water-jets cut through the propellant to macerate and remove it from the motor segment. Ammonium perchlorate (AP), a key propellant ingredient, is then leached from the washed-out propellant mass. After processing, the reclaimed AP can be reused in chemical manufacturing or incorporated back into rocket motors.

Thiokol is under contract to NASA to washout 16 RSRM segments (12 filament-wound cases and four steel cases with diameters of 366 centimeters (144 inches) and weight of 135,000 kilograms (300,000 pounds)). This contract will amount to approximately 1.35 million kilograms (3 million pounds) of reclaimed AP. The new washout facility is capable of removing propellant from any large booster segments currently in production. It is projected that the washout of Shuttle segments will be completed in late 2000. Thiokol is selling the reclaimed AP on the open market.

More than 30 years ago, Thiokol was the first aerospace company to remove propellant, liner and insulation from large solid propellant rocket motors using high-pressure water. Today, Thiokol's washout facilities can washout motors that range in size from small tactical motors (10 centimeters (4-inches) in diameter) to Peacekeeper Stage I motors (234 centimeters (92-inches) in diameter and weighing up to 48,600 kilograms (108,000 pounds)) to the RSRM Space Shuttle motors. Since the early 1960s, Thiokol has washed out over 4,276 rocket motors and warheads removing more than 9.4 million kilograms (21 million pounds) of energetic materials.

With 18,000 employees worldwide, Cordant Technologies (CDD-NYSE) is a strategically balanced global business with consolidated annual sales of approximately $2.5 billion. Cordant Technologies' Thiokol Propulsion business is the leading producer of solid propulsion systems; its Huck International subsidiary delivers high performance industrial and aerospace fastener systems, and Cordant's Howmet International Inc. subsidiary is a global manufacturer of aircraft and industrial gas turbine engine components.